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PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 45

London: April 24, 1937

2d.

Now for the World Conference!

DON'T LET GOVERNMENTS SIDE-TRACK PEOPLES' WILL TO PEACE

George Lansbury's Message To You

IN a message to readers of PEACE NEWS on his return from Berlin, where, as the world now knows, he went to obtain Herr Hitler's support for a world conference specifically called to remove the causes of war, George Lansbury emphasized the need for every pacifist to let his M.P. and the Government know that he wants the proposed conference to take place and hopes that, if necessary, this country will give the lead.

"Germany will be very willing," said a statement issued with the approval of the Chancellor and Mr. Lansbury, "to attend a conference and take part in a united effort to establish economic co-operation and mutual understanding between the nations of the world, if President Roosevelt or the head of another great country will take the lead in calling such a conference."

"I got from Herr Hitler what I wanted to get from him," commented Mr. Lansbury in Berlin on Monday night.

(Editorial on page 6.)

WHAT Mr. Lansbury did want was summed up by him in an interview before he left London.

"I am going to discuss, so far as is practicable in an interview," he said, "the question of how best the statesmen can bring peace not only to a troubled world but to a world earnestly desirous of peace."

The British Government's reaction to the declaration which has been made is not apparent at the time of going to press. Significantly, perhaps, no editorial comment was made in *The Times* on Tuesday, though other newspapers were ready enough to acknowledge, in rather cautious tones, the value of Mr. Lansbury's achievement.

WHAT OTHERS THINK

Although the silence of the British Government is apparently responsible for a similar official guardedness in the U.S.A., Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, is reported to have expressed gratification "at the interest shown abroad in the restoration of world economy."

A French comment on the statement was "Excellent," while in Italy a good impression was reported.

DISCOURAGING

Signs of a desire to belittle the importance of what has so far been done, and of petulance with Herr Hitler for having dared to make such an announcement to a member of the British Parliamentary Opposition instead of "through the usual diplomatic channels," shown, for example, in the *Morning Post*, must be a danger signal for pacifists.

Niceties of diplomatic prestige must not be allowed to stand in the way of the hopes of the millions of ordinary people who have to pay the price of diplomatic failures.

The readiness of President Roosevelt to call a world conference must inevitably be influenced by the isolationist tendencies of some of his countrymen. Evidence of a more willing spirit in Europe would undoubtedly strengthen his hand.

A sign of France's attitude was to be found in a speech by M. Delbos, the Foreign Minister, last week-end, in which he agreed with Dr. Schacht that a political improvement must precede an economic one.

Above all, and first of all, he added, hearts and minds must be disarmed. Surely Mr. Lansbury's method, even if unusual, may result in some measure of such disarmament—where "the usual diplomatic channels" have not been conspicuously successful.

Further evidence of probable French support in any move that is made is contained in a report in *The Times* that M. Blum and his colleagues "are strongly in favour of a general attack upon trade barriers."

Despite various difficulties, therefore, a lead from one great nation would undoubtedly meet with an eager response. If each waits for the others, however, the drift to disaster will continue.

The spirit which prompted Sir Samuel Hoare to appeal last week to other naval Powers to avoid "unlimited and suicidal competition," instead of giving a practical lead to that end, must not be allowed to cloud



THE QUESTION ASKED ON THIS POSTER (PUBLISHED BY THE SPANISH MINISTRY OF PROPAGANDA) MAY WELL SERVE AS AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM H. RUNHAM BROWN, HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL.

By
H. RUNHAM BROWN

MEMBERS of the Peace Pledge Union and readers of PEACE NEWS have responded magnificently to the appeals for relief work in Spain which have appeared in this paper, and I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing sincere gratitude.

Readers will be interested in the following statement which has been supplied by the Peace Pledge

the hope which millions will feel on hearing of the results of George Lansbury's interview with Hitler.

The only way this can be ensured is by seeing that a strong public opinion—which no Government dare ignore—insists on the proposal for a world conference to remove the causes of war... and public opinion is made by YOU.

Union:—

Receipts to date .. £ 505 s. 2 d. 1

Payments to date:—

War Resisters' International 371 0 0

National Joint Committee 50 0 0

Viscount Churchill for the University

Ambulance Unit .. 10 0 0

Shipping and insurance charges on clothing sent to Spain .. 13 18 10

444 18 10

Balance on April 14, 1937 £60 3 3

(The Peace Pledge Union has since

paid a further sum of £60 to the W.R.I.)

In addition the sum of £307 has been received from W.R.I. members all over the world.

A few days ago we received a further cable from Professor Brocca begging us to send all the money available for the work in Spain. We have cleared the account and every penny you have contributed has been passed on.

When you read this, Professor Brocca will be on his way to Switzerland where, with your money, he will purchase large supplies of necessities for distribution in Madrid and elsewhere.

A Swiss friend who recently met Professor Brocca in Spain has issued an appeal in his own country and has been able to purchase four new buses which are to be taken to Spain laden with the commodities Professor Brocca has gone to Switzerland to buy.

We believe the money we have sent will be sufficient to fill those buses. Your gifts will be used in their entirety for actual relief.

The buses are full—but our cash box for Spain is empty! Still the need goes on and increases. We recognize it will be far more difficult to maintain this work than to raise an initial sum to commence it.

It is not an enviable task continually to ask friends to give and give again. But for the sake of the cause we have to do this and I believe we can do so with confidence, knowing that all our members and friends, not only in England but throughout the world, will respond to their utmost.

Send your financial gifts to Canon "Dick" Sheppard, Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1—marked "Spanish Relief Fund." Gifts of clothing should be addressed to Messrs. Davies, Turner & Co., Ltd., Carrier House, 4 Lower Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1, marked "P.P.U. for Spain," and should bear the name and address of the sender.

HOW TO WIN SUPPORT

Big North London "Drive"

A BIG effort has been made throughout Golders Green during the last few weeks to put the pacifist case, nearly 25,000 pamphlets giving various arguments against war and for pacifism having been distributed.

This drive has won hundreds of sympathizers, many of whom are now taking an active part in the local work for peace. It is hoped that sympathizers and members will regularly take PEACE NEWS and keep in touch with the local movement. New and old friends are very welcome at the informal meetings, and support of every kind is wanted for the many activities.

One job that everyone should do is to write without delay to the local cinema to remonstrate against the showing, as is proposed, of recruiting films.

Those interested in the movement should get in touch with K. Harvey Lee, 109 Hampstead Way, N.W.1 (telephone, Speedwell 5884).

Turn up in your thousands

to the RALLY in Trafalgar Square tomorrow (Sunday, April 25). Particulars on back page.

THE KING'S WEIGH HOUSE CHURCH
DUKE STREET, LONDON, W.1
(Bond Street Tube)
SUNDAY, April 25
7 p.m. DR. B. L. SHEPPARD

Reflections and Comments

ARMAMENTS MEAN DANGER FOR DEMOCRACIES

—says Lord Ponsonby

LETTERS and articles continue to appear in the press discussing not only present international relations but making suggestions for the release of nations from the intolerable burden of armaments which is pressing down on the people with increasing weight.

No one, not even the Government, can regard the present situation with

India

FAIR DEALING THE ONLY REMEDY

NO further progress in the Indian deadlock has so far been made, owing to the inability of the British Government to appreciate the reasons for which the Congress Party asked for certain assurances before accepting office.

As Mr. Gandhi stated last week, the refusal to submit Lord Zetland's interpretation of the new Constitution "to examination by a legal tribunal will raise a strong presumption that the British Government has no intention of dealing fairly by the majority party whose advanced programme they dislike."

Lord Lothian's suggestion to refer to the electorate any dispute between Governors and their Ministers was subsequently referred to by Mr. Gandhi as "sound if it can be proved workable and not prohibitively expensive."

PRISON FOR DEMONSTRATOR

Meanwhile, events themselves continue to belie any claim by Great Britain to be pursuing a really enlightened policy.

The secretary of the All-India Congress Socialist Party, for example, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for organizing a procession in Patna, Bihar, despite a police prohibition.

Strict measures are still being pursued in Waziristan, where the present trouble, according to a Government statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday, "is due to the increasing scale of the fanatical and anti-British propaganda of the Faqir of Ipi." Ground troops at present employed by the Government in the area number approximately 25,000.

That recent bombing of the tribes was as much to blame as anything, however, was shown in a letter signed by "Waziri" published in the *Manchester Guardian* last week, reminding readers that

"frantic men need no leader when they seek revenge for slaughtered wives, barbarously murdered children, and shattered homes."

equanimity. I agree with Lord Snowden, who writes in a recent letter:

"Surely if our people will think seriously, they will realize the folly of the claim that if all the nations will go on impoverishing themselves by competitive armaments they will be ensuring peace."

But who is to cry "Halt"? I think we should. The financial burden is serious enough. But what to my mind is worse is the gradual militarization of a large section of the population because that means a serious menace to democracy.

This point is worth emphasizing. We cannot afford in these days to weaken in any way the basis of our democratic institutions.

IT was well put many years ago by Sir Henry Maine in his *Essays on Popular Government*.

I will quote a passage: and it must be remembered that the word "army" now includes air force:

"No two organizations can be more opposed to one another than an army scientifically disciplined and equipped and a nation democratically governed."

The great military virtue is obedience; the great military sin is slackness in obeying. It is forbidden to decline to carry out orders, even with the clearest conviction of their inexpediency.

"But the chief democratic right is the right to censure superiors; public opinion, which means censure as well as praise, is the motive force of democratic societies. The maxims of the two systems flatly contradict one another, and the man who would loyally obey both finds his moral constitution cut into two halves."

At the time the essays were published it was thought that Maine was exaggerating and that the growth of democracy would mean the gradual cessation of war and consequent minimizing of standing armies.

SO indeed was it expected toward the end of the nineteenth century. But this century has shown most unfortunately an enormous increase in the destructive power of armaments accompanied by greater confidence in the use of force.

Meanwhile democracies, instead of refusing to accept any reliance on arms, have precipitately ranged themselves on the side of the dictators whose only confidence throughout the centuries has been in the establishment and maintenance of a system the very existence of which is based solely on force and violence.

Nevertheless sane voices are still heard giving warning against this false creed. Among these I have read with great satisfaction and agreement two notable articles in the Sunday *Observer* by Dr. L. P. Jacks.

He marshals his arguments without

heat, without sentimentality, and without for a moment mounting any high moral horse. Taking into account the desperate race in armament competition, he concentrates more especially on the need for eliminating force from the procedure of the League of Nations.

HE draws attention to the error into which the framers of the Covenant fell when "they invoked Satan to cast out Satan" and pleads that the attempt to make the League a coercionist alliance should be abandoned.

Here he falls foul of the advocates of collective "security" and points out that while British armaments are said only to be intended for the preservation of peace, General Göring was justifying German armaments on precisely the same grounds.

So he concludes, "the rhetorical dedication of armaments to peace has no effect whatever in checking the race for them."

He points out very pertinently that once the industry of the nation has been mobilized for defence it will be extremely difficult to stop it. "Getting into the race for armaments is much easier than getting out of it."

I would add that if you enlist the population to make frantic preparations for something, it is by no means improbable that for this very reason that something will happen.

BUT Dr. Jacks by no means confines himself to criticism. He ends with a definitely constructive proposal, namely that limitation of armaments should be made part of a positive scheme for liberating the channels of international trade.

In fact, that disarmament should be linked with economic cooperation and the sums saved by reduction of armaments should be controlled by a Board of International Trustees and devoted to the stabilization of currencies, the lowering of tariff barriers, promoting international social services, and assisting nations afflicted by natural calamities.

If this is considered fantastic, says Dr. Jacks, it can hardly be more fantastic than the present coercionist plan.

To my mind this sort of idea is well worth close consideration and should be explored with other suggestions to save us from a threatening catastrophe.

Dr. Jacks may not be a member of the P.P.U. but we must keep our eyes open beyond the narrow limits of our own society for words of wisdom when they come from a sober, rational, and far-seeing mind.

Arthur Ponsonby

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American Youth Protests

THEY DON'T WANT WHITE CROSSES!

A CORRESPONDENT in Massachusetts has sent us a leaflet showing how America's youth is putting "pep" into its efforts for peace.

Entitled "Today is M-Day" ("M" stands for mobilization), the leaflet contains the following extracts.

"We are the youth of America... You can't kid us! The nations value their gold more than their sons. Again they rearm for war and youth marches to death while their elders cheer.

"Who will fight your next world war? We, the American Youth? But we protest! We don't want your white crosses!

"We don't want your wreaths and tears on Armistice Day or your two minutes of impatient silence. We don't want your medals and your long eulogies for the murders we shall commit. We don't even want the bonus."

THREE LEAD THE WAY

Compulsory military training in tax-supported educational institutions in North Dakota has been abolished by a Bill passed by both houses of the State legislature and recently signed by Governor Langer.

This makes North Dakota the third State in the U.S.A. to substitute optional for compulsory military training in State educational institutions, Wisconsin and Minnesota having already taken this step.

Young Essayists Blame The Churches

The report on a peace essay competition organized in connexion with a "Good Will Foundation" established by Mrs. Van Loan in memory of her husband for promoting the spirit of friendship and understanding among the youth of the world, has just been published.

The essays were submitted to C. C. Tarelli, a Presbyterian and an Englishman, who relied on a jury of 26 persons representing twenty nationalities and belonging to Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Greek Orthodox Churches.

The report claims that the papers reached a high level—that the writers all recognized that universal brotherhood was an essential part of Christ's message, and that their particular churches had failed in their witness to the truth.

The first senior prize (candidates aged nineteen to 23) went to Sweden, and the first junior prize (from fifteen to nineteen) to Switzerland. Among the other prize-winners the youth of Denmark, Germany, France, Bulgaria, Poland, and many other countries are represented.

WAR'S END LIES IN YOUR HANDS

Only Salvation for the Human Race

WORLD-WIDE ALLIANCE FOR PEACE

From Our Special Correspondent

CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA

IT may be of interest to read what a Spanish geologist, Alberto Carsi, thinks about war. In an article entitled "The seeds of war" in *Fragua Social* he writes:

"War has been described as 'congenital,' the 'incentive to progress,' and even 'the school of the great virtues.'

"But all this is nothing more than shameless lack of faith. War is the direct product of rapine: its very motive power is robbery. There you have its framework: all else that can be said does but dilute the reality.

"Many and various have been the projects for eliminating war, but they have all been constructed upon a basis of international groups. The salvation of the human race is not to be found there. It lies with the suppression of war, in the hands of those who suffer and toil and take part in war as soldiers, and can only be brought about finally and decisively by an alliance for peace among the workers and pacifists of the world.

"If there were no soldiers, there would be no war, and therefore no trade in war, no robbery, no stimulus to that frenzied production which drives nations to the necessity of continually extending their territory and organizing armies."

TEACH YOUTH THE FOLLY

Personally, I am convinced that, if our youngsters of both sexes were conducted through the war-hospitals under expert tutelage, the war-spirit would soon be killed. If I am wrong, why did Bertha von Suttner receive the Nobel Peace Prize for *Lay down your Arms?*

I have seen a battalion of young soldiers which had gone bad, and was committing every crime in the calendar, brought to its senses with a shock by being shown a museum of revoltingly diseased specimens in glass bottles, and lectured on the folly of vice.

Government and the Churches

Members of a delegation which, in the words of the Rev. E. Iredell, who was one of them, visited Spain in order to dissipate the fog of misconception that has settled on Christian people over the Spanish civil war, recently spoke at a meeting in Paris.

"The burning of the churches has happened far too often," he added, but in every place it has been the action of irresponsible people, in no single instance of the only elected government of Spain. The churches are closed now to prevent any further desecration and to protect them from violence."



Physical fitness campaigns are all the rage just now. In most countries it is suspected that the idea is to make youth fit for war. This picture of Spanish refugee children suggests that in one case, at any rate, the motive is to enable them to forget the horrors of war.

SPANISH DELEGATES AT CONFERENCE OF WAR RESISTERS

Military Training Leads To Murder

From an Austrian Correspondent

Side by side with the suppression of the pacifist youth movement (first the War Resisters League and now the Austrian branch of the World Youth League have been dissolved) the militaristic education of youth is being pushed in all directions.

As in all authoritarian States, so in Austria the organization of youth is a monopoly of the Government.

The fruits of this military education were visible from recent legal proceedings.

At the court a member of the official youth organization, who had shot a comrade, made the following statement.

"I was in bed and said, 'Listen. Let's play at war. When I grow up I'd like to join the army.' I took a rifle and blew his brains out."

"I saw that he was severely wounded, and thought he would have to die anyhow. But in order not to have him walking about crippled, I aimed at him and hit him again."

"Then he was dead."

The house where he lived was full of all kinds of arms and in addition the boy had bought a rifle.

GAME OF GUNS!

From a Correspondent

The War Resisters League, 171 West 12th Street, New York, N.Y., U.S.A., is distributing an amusing game called "The Game of Guns, Disarmament." This was invented by Dr. Jessie Wallace Hughan, Secretary of the W.R.L.

It is based on the old game of "Authors," in that it gives a good deal of information and, incidentally, it arouses a feeling against guns in favour of the other classes represented, books, shops, and farms. Such information is in brief sentences on each card.

The game is played on the principle of "Hearts," the winner being the one who has gained the largest number of the "civilization cards" farms, books, and shops,

COMING FROM AMERICA

An American correspondent, formerly with the youth secretariat of the War Resisters' International, and the Youth Movement for Peace in France from 1930 to 1935 is organizing a group for touring Europe this summer which will attend the conference and the youth camp.

Their programme also includes two or three weeks' work in a camp of the International Voluntary Service for Peace.

and has the fewest gun cards. To have no gun cards is to make a slam.

(A secret session of the editorial staff of PEACE NEWS devoted to "The Game of Guns, Disarmament" the other night resulted in a display of positive arms profiteering by the loser, and a preference for butter over guns by the winner!)

HEADQUARTERS' NOTES AND COMMENTS

By MAX PLOWMAN

96 Regent Street, W.1.

LIKE the activity of the heart, the activity of the P.P.U. is dual: it runs out to the extremities of the body politic and comes back to the very centre of the personal life; and it is the business of every member of the P.P.U. to sustain this dual activity in a perfectly balanced rhythm.

Now nobody outside or inside a lunatic asylum is going to convince me that the primitive, self-protective activity of instinctive man, which was perpetuated in war right up to 1900, has anything but a deceptive resemblance to the horror that began in 1914 when the destructive power of mechanical science began to be fully exploited. Therefore, our first purpose is to present the truth about modern war to the heart and conscience of every person in the British Isles in such a way that they shall decide for themselves—irrespective of the actions of every other inhabitant of the globe—whether they, personally, will ever again assist in making this horror possible. Or whether they will decline—on any and every pretext—to do the thing which, in its totality, will bring greater misery and devastation upon the world than has hitherto been imaginable.

That is our prime activity. Not, I think, to persuade people to sign the peace pledge; but simply to ask them whether in view of the facts, they are not convinced that they have no human right to take part in war; and if they are so convinced whether they will not register their conviction once for all.

That is what may be called our external activity. Consequent upon it, and as a result of that prime activity, comes what may be called the internal activity: the whole crop comprised by our inability to appreciate the other fellow's point of view. Most practically this comes to mean the discovery that the economic basis of society is rotten, being founded not upon the social law of human brotherhood, but upon the predatory law of unlimited and unrestrained self-interest: the discovery that we are enmeshed in a system by which man is made the enemy of man: the discovery that mass exploitation of the less fortunate has become the royal road to personal security. It means the discovery that the only true democracy is a democracy not of personal rights but of personal responsibilities: the responsibility to God for a conscience void of offence, the responsibility to our fellows to do to them as we would they should do to us; in fact, the responsibility for the re-creation of a democratic State based upon a belief in the equality of all men before God.

The first of these activities reminds me irresistibly of the task undertaken by certain Galilean fishermen in the first century. Their business was to convict, to convince, and to tell of a new condition of life upon earth based upon the principle of individual self-sacrifice as against individual self-interest.

The second of these activities reminds me of the same people and of the difficulties they encountered when

The Notice Board

See also Group Notes

Camp to be held at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, July 30—August 6. 35s. per week, proportionately for shorter periods. Write 96 Regent Street, W.1.

Volunteers who can carry poster boards in parades around London main line stations, May 13—15, please get in touch with P.P.U. Headquarters.

The P.P.U. office is open for voluntary workers until 8 o'clock on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

PEACE NEWS sellers wanted for—May 1 demonstration in London (procession to Hyde Park).

Outside the Gaumont, Haymarket, London, where Government propaganda film, *The Gap*, is being shown.

More sellers for PEACE NEWS wanted in Harrow. Anyone willing to assist please communicate with Leslie G. Milsom, 2 Hillbury Avenue, Kenton, Harrow.

P.P.U. and F.O.R. groups in Gloucester holding camp conference on May Hill (near Gloucester), May 15—17. Particulars from Mrs. Byard, 18 Bloomfield Road, Gloucester.

CZECHS MEET PACIFISTS

Dr. Eltz, a member of the team of young Czechs who have come to England for the purpose of enlightening the British public on conditions in Czechoslovakia, addressed the last monthly meeting of the Blackheath and Charlton group.

Pacifists were the only people who faced up to the facts of the world today, said David Spreckley at a meeting at Pottergate last week.

they attempted to express socially the truth they had discovered by individual experience. They failed to solve the problem that I believe we, all these centuries later, are now called upon to solve: how to have sufficient faith to trust the truth to express itself in form, and how to abstain from seeking to impose extraneous form upon the truth. They failed, and in due course the Head of the Church was seated on the Papal throne. The rest we know.

Therefore it seems to me (and here I must clearly be understood to express a purely personal conviction) better that the P.P.U. should never have any corporate body at all than that it should travesty the truth it has discovered through its appeal to liberty of conscience; better that it should take a considerable time to find its own true form than degenerate into a mechanically governed organization in which power of representation takes precedence over power of individual service to the common cause.

A true fraternity neither seeks nor desires representative power. A true democracy is a fraternity of individuals ready to accept responsibility. In the P.P.U. we have yet to discover the best ways and means of corporate action; but if we do not yet know how to make the P.P.U. effective and workable as a fraternity, let us patiently learn by experience. Let us see to it that the experience we are guided by is our own. Let us resist the temptation to borrow plans and estimates from so-called democratic parties whose democratic edifices are already in ruins. Above all, let us not lose our cardinal simplicity by being so concerned with the form that we destroy the spirit of our movement.

GROUP NOTES

By JOHN BARCLAY

I HAD a rare opportunity the other day of attending a peace meeting as an onlooker and was able to notice the effect on myself of statements made from the platform. It came as a shock when I realized that things I say in my way sounded quite new when put the other way. The same cause was pleaded—the figures were the same—but the emphasis was entirely different. Now it is on this question of emphasis that our groups are divided. Is it possible to combine the purely intellectual approach with the evangelical urge?

It not only can be done, but it is essential that a greater number should do it. Public opinion is in the process of being re-formed as to its peace policy, after having accepted certain slogans, and paid "lip-service" to the ideals during the last ten years. *Pax* is being changed to *eirene*: the individual is finding a desire for personal salvation and is not satisfied with the academic solution. Peace, like charity, begins at home, and the groups that are growing fastest are those which have accepted this truism. If you hammer the head into shape, the heart will perhaps refuse its help; if you besiege the mind with emotion, however genuine, it becomes clogged and reason is stifled. Both must be working in complete harmony.

With the idea of presenting a clearer picture of Air Raid Precautions to the country, we are helping in the delegate conference this weekend, details of which will be found elsewhere. Here the emphasis will be laid on facts as far as possible. The result should be a new step toward a well-informed public opinion.

W.1 group has been distributing literature outside the Marylebone A.R.P. exhibition and large numbers of people have taken away pamphlets which would cause them to inquire further into the whole question before committing themselves to the task of preparing themselves for a "new war." I do not believe war is inevitable. It will only become so when we accept the inevitability. If we prepare for war, we shall get war, if we train ourselves for peace—

Wilmslow (Cheshire) had a packed audience to hear Mr. Thomas Southall (chairman, Hampstead group). He spoke on "War or Peace" and explained the policy of non-violent resistance, saying it was likely to succeed, whereas we knew beforehand of the certain failure of a policy of rearmament. The meeting closed with the showing of a film *Thunder in the Air*.

Macclesfield sends me a long report which shows how active they are becoming. I hope all who live in this area will get into immediate touch with Miss M. L. Greg, 392 Buxton Road, Macclesfield, who is the group leader.

Heaton Moor (Lancs.) was only formed in January, but has already got into full swing. Their activities include getting PEACE NEWS into the local library, having a stall in the market and an intensive campaign of visiting signatories in the district. Since beginning themselves, they have got a new group started at Edgeley and two more are in process of being formed at Woodsmoor and Reddish.

Ideas for Action

By DAVID SPRECKLEY

I WANT to explain myself and at the same time add my piping treble to Max Plowman's deep bass of experience on the subject of "organizing the P.P.U."

If the P.P.U. becomes organized, with a cut-and-dried constitution, policy, and programme imposed from above, then we shall all become so many lifeless puppets—to be governed, commanded, and ordered about like any soldier. We shall no longer think and act for ourselves, and individuality will disappear.

The P.P.U. is essentially a movement of individuals, and while we must not be organized, nevertheless we do need to **organize ourselves**. Such self-organization by groups as I have advocated in these columns is for the purpose of helping the individual to express his pacifism better and do more for the cause.

I believe that this organization from below, which means sharing out responsibility so that each individual has the maximum amount, is essential; whereas organization from above, which removes our responsibility and leaves us as lifeless postcard signatures, would be fatal. At present there is absolute democracy within the P.P.U.—the individual decides for himself, and on fundamental principles we all agree because we are pacifists.

I hope everyone will see the difference between harnessing oneself in a team, and being clamped down as an inanimate cog of a machine.

The real work must be done by the individuals and groups. We at headquarters exist only to coordinate their efforts, to pass on information, and to suggest . . . which reminds me:—

Suggestion 11.

The distribution of free literature is good propaganda. The public are really interested in us and I have often had them come back and ask for more, when they find that it isn't an advertisement for a cure for corns or a mysterious clairvoyant that has been pushed into their hand. Groups could get rid of thousands in their local shopping centres on Saturday evenings. It wouldn't take many such little campaigns to make a whole town "P.P.U.-conscious."

And we can always carry some in our pockets—leaving them in waiting rooms, buses, trains, on restaurant tables, putting them in parked cars, in letter boxes, and so on.

TAKE P.P.U. INTO EVERY HOME!

The Middleton group have decided to distribute a copy of the P.P.U. leaflet "Are you prepared to support or sanction another war?" to each of 4,000 houses in their area.

They believe that they are the only group in the country to take the P.P.U. into every home in a town and they commend the idea to other groups.

At a meeting called to unite the members of the three pacifist societies in Leicester, the Peace Pledge Union, the Council of Christian Pacifists, and the No More War Movement, Miss Mary Gamble urged the "young and untarnished" members to trust their first instinctive longing for peace and to be ready to make sacrifices for it.

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INTO ME!**Here's The Answer**

Argument. The end justifies the means, therefore war may help to establish peace.

IT seems to me to be both a natural and a moral law, that like produces like; the progeny of war is war; to prepare for war is not to guarantee peace but to bring about war. You can only overcome evil by good; and the people who make war can never be in a position to make a just and lasting peace. Only peace-lovers and peace-makers can do that.—"A colleague and a pacifist" in an open letter to Canon W. J. Lyon, published in the *Loughborough Monitor*.

War Spirit Parodied: Drama of French Resister

By JOHN ATHEY

THE Youth Group Players, a branch of the League of Nations Union, recently presented two plays at Tetherdown Hall, Muswell Hill, under the direction of Stuart Rose.

The first of these plays was *Aria da Capo*, by Edna St. Vincent Millay, and was a parody of the spirit that leads nations into war with each other.

Columbine and Pierrot were interrupted in their rehearsals by two shepherds and "the Masque of Tragedy." They then played their drama, which consisted of two friendly shepherds dividing their land into two parts and each calling one part his own.

One of them finds that he has no water for his sheep and begs his friend for some. The friend refuses, saying that they had agreed to keep each to his own share. The "have-not" shepherd then finds precious stones on his land and offers to trade some of them for some water.

He does not like to let the jewels go, so he strangles his victim with the string of beads that he gives him for the water, which has been poisoned in order that his enemy can get the jewels.

Then Columbine and Pierrot return to continue with their act and find the dead bodies. Quite calmly, they place a table over them and the large cloth conceals the bodies from the view of the audience; and the play goes on.

A PACIFIST'S TRIAL

The second play was a change from imagination to reality, for it was an enactment of *The Trial of Philippe Vernier*, translated from the French by Helen Carpenter, with an epilogue written and arranged by Stuart Rose.

The company is to be congratulated for this presentation. It showed the horror of life for

a pacifist in a nation where military service is compulsory.

The story of the trial is one of the epics of pacifism and this dramatization is an excellent portrayal of recent history.

The nobility of character possessed by Vernier was well brought out in his own speech and those of the witnesses for the defence. The finest speech of all, both from a propaganda point of view and a dramatic, was that of his counsel for defence, Maître André Philippe, who presented the complete pacifist case.

He said that, as Vernier was fulfilling his duty to God, it was for the judge to consider, if he gave a verdict of guilty, that he was placing duty to the State above duty to God.

But to take one passage cannot do justice to such a fine play, which is packed with propaganda and dramatic interest from the rise of the curtain.

One left the theatre feeling that one had been in contact with one of the greatest souls, and with a desire, should the occasion ever arise, of continuing the task for which he had so painfully and courageously suffered.

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Drawn by ARTHUR WRAGG

Courtesy "Time and Tide"

IT SEEKS TO ME . . . by Ampersand**Making Distinctions**

A CONGREGATIONAL Moderator, the Rev.

Hugh Jenkins, has, I see, been amusing himself with the old game of grafting his likes and dislikes of people on to distinctions between words.

"It is a far greater thing to be a peace-maker than a pacifist," he says. "Pacifism is a theory, but peace-making is doing the thing by trial and suffering."

This is a particularly instructive piece of word-making and word-taking, because "pacifist" in its original derivation means "peace-maker"—just that and nothing more.

It is true that it is a badly derived word, and that—as Fowler points out in his *Modern English Usage*—it should have been "pacificist," to show its derivation from *pax*, peace, and *facere*, to make.

But these scholars' distinctions are not, of course, what Mr. Jenkins is concerned with. His exposition of what the words "really" mean has no relation to derivation, usage, or fact, but only to his own emotional attitude.

Some people give a dog a bad name. Others, when they dislike a dog, turn their attentions to blackening the name the dog already has. The intention in both cases is the same.

Time Will Show

BUT most of us will probably agree that,

whatever its derivation, "pacifist" is now a word with a special meaning, and no longer a synonym for "peace-maker."

What about Mr. Jenkins' treatment of the latter word?

When a word is as obvious in its meaning as this one, I think we are entitled to insist that it means simply what it says, nothing more and nothing less.

Peace-makers are people who make peace. When somebody has made a peace that really looks like one, we shall know to whom to apply the word, whether he has done it by "trial and suffering" or by trial and error. We can let closer definition await that achievement.

Why Mr. Jenkins wants to keep a hold on "peace-maker" is quite clear.

It is because Jesus said—according to the translation of the Authorized Version—"Blessed are the peace-makers," and he, perhaps, feels his purpose is sufficiently achieved if he can read comfortably through the Sermon on the Mount without a thought that, by implication any way, Jesus said: "Blessed are the pacifists."

Give us peace in our minds, O Lord!

Dirty Work

A PEACE pledger, distributing anti-armament leaflets in North London, came across a dustman—she emphasizes that he was a really dirty dustman, a very dirty dustman—and said to him, "Will you have one of these?"

And he said—this very, very dirty dustman, doing such a very, very dirty bit of work. "Why, yes, I'll take one. It is a nasty job for you, isn't it Miss?"

This Week's Problem

IF this story, told me by a pacifist, isn't a pacifist story, I don't know what it is.

There was a man who worked in a perambulator factory, and as his wife wanted a perambulator he said he'd make it for her, an extra good one. So he collected a set of perambulator parts and put them together.

Then he took them apart again.

And he put them together again, and then took them apart again.

And he put them together again, and then took them apart again.

And he . . .

Finally a friend said to him, "Look here, what's the trouble? Why do you keep pulling them apart again?"

"Well," said the man, "They're perambulator parts. They ought to make a perambulator. But I don't know why it is, every time I assemble them they look like a machine gun."

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The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union

Taking the Constructive Pacifist Position, but providing news, information and an open forum

Serving all who are working for Peace

April 24, 1937

NOW IS THE TIME!

WHATEVER anyone chose to think before the event of George Lansbury's visit to Herr Hitler, no one had any excuse for expecting peace (or anything approaching such a sensation) to break out the morning after. Nor has any such expectation been fulfilled. Nevertheless, we venture to think that the result of Monday's two-hour interview was greater than even many of the most sanguine had hoped for—in terms of immediate political effect.

For consider first the origin of the venture of faith. It was no wild notion of an irresponsible, dreamy sentimentalist impulsively acted upon before he should wake from his dream. It was simply part of a well-planned, almost too cautiously worked-out programme of peace-making embodying a real attempt to pierce the fog of diplomacy and prestige and get to the very heart of the disease that has gripped the world. For this that young but quietly energetic movement known as Embassies of Reconciliation (whose secretary, Percy Bartlett, accompanied George Lansbury to Berlin) must be given most of what thanks are due to any human effort.

Following his visit, accompanied by Dr. Alfred Salter, a fellow-pacifist Member of Parliament, to the United States last year, where he made personal contact with President Roosevelt and others, George Lansbury has made a purposeful tour of most of the great democratic countries of Europe. In each case he has gone straight to the heads of the governments and talked to them, not as a politician playing a diplomatic game with half his cards up his sleeve, but as a Christian man seeking the whole truth of the difficulties—yes, and the possibilities—of achieving a peace such as he found the peoples everywhere are yearning for. Now he has been to the German dictator for the same purpose—to learn what is the German attitude to present problems and, what is more, what that attitude would be in the event of a new, sincere effort to resolve the world's differences by the peaceful method of frank, open discussion. The immediate result is Germany's willing participation in a world conference if some leading statesmen were to call one.

Here, then, is surely the world's great chance. Can the world afford not to take it? President Roosevelt was mentioned in the statement agreed to by Herr Hitler, and in a great many respects he would seem to be the most fitting person to take the lead. But though we may be permitted to observe that even the American isolationist can ill afford to take the responsibility for discouraging a step that at least offers a hope in a world so conspicuously lacking in

Why You Must TRAIN for Peace—

THE author of "The Power of Non-Violence" here examines some of the objections commonly advanced against the idea of training for pacifists.

MODERN war and its causes are immensely complex, vast and far-reaching. They enter into every phase of our life. There are correspondingly a very large number of possible methods of opposing and trying to stop war. But the time in which it must be done is short and the forces of pacifism are relatively weak.

In order to be successful we pacifists must therefore find out what is the weakest spot in the war system, mobilize all our forces, and use them at that place.

We have a problem in pacifist strategy. As pacifism is democratic, this problem is not to be settled in secret by a small staff, but discussed in public. Such a method may seem clumsy and slow and wasteful, but in the end it will prove most effective because the convictions resulting will be voluntary and wholehearted.

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If I understand his article in PEACE NEWS of March 6 aright, Lord Ponsonby believes that our efforts to end war should be purely educational and political in the customary channels and modes, and that to do anything else would waste time, weaken our effort, and expose us and our aims to defeat.

While granting the strategic necessity of concentrating all the forces we have available at the weakest point in the war system, we cannot safely disregard the complexity of elements which make up our available power. Our struggle

hope, we cannot aid and abet the shifting of any responsibility that may rest upon us in this country. That has too long been one of the worst features of that very system of international (and national) policies which this new effort at peace making has cut across and sought to end. "Now we must redouble our efforts in all lands," said George Lansbury, broadcasting from Berlin on Monday. We cannot do better than emphasize his plea to his fellow-countrymen to rouse themselves and see to it that our Government responds.

In view of its difficult position, following various statements of a contrary nature (and for goodness sake let's understand its point of view instead of being merely destructive), it will not be easy. But George Lansbury has only just begun to need the thoughts and other support of his fellow-pacifists and of peace lovers everywhere. So start now, AND KEEP ON, letting the Government know, firmly and plainly, but COURTEOUSLY, that you WILL it to take this chance and, above all, THAT YOU DESIRE EVERY STEP TO BE TAKEN WITH A VIEW TO SECURING JUSTICE AND PEACE BEFORE INTERESTS AND PRESTIGE.

will not be brief but prolonged, and we must have sufficient resources to enable us to endure.

It is like the strategic problem of war itself. Not all the time and energy of war-makers can be devoted to manoeuvre and shooting. Much time, thought and energy have to be devoted to manufacture of ammunition, guns, transport, food, morale, and all the supplies of prolonged war. Pacifists also must be thoroughly prepared.

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There are some men and women who have had education, information, experience, and self-discipline. Because of that they will be able, without more, to withstand the onslaughts of war propaganda, fear, suspicion, hatred, and mass hysteria which are becoming prevalent and seem likely to increase. Such people are relatively little to alter them.

If the Peace Pledge Union is to become strong politically it must secure much larger membership than it has at present. It can get great numbers only by enlisting many of the working class. They have not had great advantages. Hence the majority of present and prospective members of the Peace Pledge Union have not had training which would enable them to withstand war propaganda and herd pressure. The chances are strong that they would wilt and yield under the barrage. This is one of the reasons why I believe in a regular course of training for all.

It will not do for the Peace Pledge Union, after telling the size of its membership, boldly to announce "We say 'No,'" and then have its membership melt and crumble into a mere handful as soon as the Government and its followers really put on the pressure. Getting one's bluff called is not only humiliating; it damages one's cause as well as one's personal influence. Saying "No" is good, but to make it stick will require preparation as careful and detailed as that of the soldiers.

It is not a case that can safely be separated into a short-term policy made up of acquiring a large membership and making a big political demonstration, and a postponed long-term policy of training and acquisition of a permanent philosophy in a leisurely future after the tussle with Government is over. Government is not so inexperienced, innocent, and careless as that plan assumes.

In 1926 the great British trade union movement, about thirty times larger than the P.P.U. and disciplined by a century of severe struggles, said "No" to the employers and Government. But as the unions had not thought out the implications of their stand or made adequate preparation, their saying "No" was a bluff, the Government called the bluff, they could not endure, and they were swiftly defeated and have not yet recovered.

The Government will do likewise with you in a little preliminary round unless you are far more thoroughly prepared than were the unions and their leaders. The discipline should

begin now and go hand in hand with other measures. It will not interfere with other types of effort, political and otherwise, but will strengthen them.

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Of all the causes of war mentioned in that article by Lord Ponsonby, the one which is nearest to ordinary men and women and most capable of being altered and controlled by them is "a sincere but mistaken belief in force for defence." The other causes are either so remote or so complex and hidden that the common individual citizen can at present do extremely little to alter them.

The belief in force for defence is widespread. Governments' skill and control of the mediums of propaganda and public information make it easy to dress up almost any policy so that it looks like defence. Hence it is not difficult for the Governments of every country to rouse people's fears and then get their support for military preparations and subsequent conscription and war.

This belief in force is not a detached, cold, logical affair, but closely and deeply intertwined with men's emotions and sentiments. It comes out of the long experience of the race, practically all of which was under conditions very different from those at present.

To alter that belief will require more than widespread and repeated statements of the meaning of modern methods of war, for the common man finds that the experts disagree about this, and he learns that Madrid, for example, is not yet a mere smoking pile of masonry and gas-drenched corpses.

And even if the intellectual part of the prevailing belief in force could be altered by skilful and prolonged education alone, experience seems to show that the belief usually revives rapidly when the passions of war are unleashed.

One kind of emotion can be cast out effectively only by another kind of emotion. And to make that process permanent, the new emotion must be woven into a set of different ideas and ideals so as to constitute a new and controlling sentiment. Furthermore, to make the sentiments enduring they must be translated into physical action so as to engage one's entire being.

If people say it is nonsense to do folk dancing or knitting or hand spinning in this machine age, the reply is that it is no more nonsense than for soldiers in their training to be required to march and counter-march in this age of the motor car, tank, and aeroplane. As long as we have bodies co-ordinated with our nervous systems, and hence, muscular movements affecting the condition of our nerves and endocrine glands and of our feeling, thinking, sentiments, and wills, we must use our bodies as a part of any sound system of education and discipline.

If we refuse to use the experience of soldiers and the modern discoveries of psychology in relation to will and habit formation, and leave all that advantage to fascists, we endanger liberty still further.

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make them firm requires a deliberate course of discipline. Ask the military men if that is not so. The discipline will be needed not only to enable pacifists to withstand opposition but also that they may do promptly the creative work of building a better world.

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THE British people have unconsciously been well disciplined by the slow course of historical events. They may prefer their processes of habit formation to be slow and unconscious. That way was safe and effective and wise so long as they lived on an island. But in relation to the decisive methods of modern war they no longer live on an island. The alteration in their security may indicate a need for altering modes of discipline.

Now they and all of western civilization face a crisis where a great change of thinking and sentiments has to be made, and there is very little time in which to make it. Reliance can no longer be placed on the slow pressure of impersonal historical forces. The



They "march and counter march in this age of the motor car, tank, and aeroplane." But there's method in their madness!

tempo of events is so accelerated and the dangers of modern weapons so immensely enhanced that more rapid methods of altering mental and emotional habits are called for, and must, I believe, be deliberately adopted.

Even though the awareness of such methods may at first make one feel self-conscious and uncomfortable, they are effective. Against such temporary discomfort there should be fully weighed the cost of the alternative of not using any new discipline.

Yet the proposed methods of training are not really so new. They are only adaptations from methods used effectively by soldiers and others for centuries. If taken rightly they need make us feel no more uncomfortable than the soldier feels in self-consciously learning to fly an airplane.

Inasmuch as the great influence for peace of people like George Lansbury and "Dick" Sheppard is due to the nature of their deeds and spirit, I cannot see why it is "giving away our cause" and not helping our work as pacifists if we strive to accomplish somewhat similar deeds in a similar spirit.

Peace between nations as well as between individuals is a result of

USING THE OLD SCHOOL TIE!

TRY PACIFISM NOW!

Too Many "Sitting On The Fence"

"NOW is the time to take the risk of going completely pacifist. The European bark is being carried now by a trade wind toward the rocks of war." So said Dr. H. R. L. Sheppard at a meeting held by the Fellowship of Reconciliation in Battersea Town Hall last week.

"Unless England stands out against mass-murder and race-suicide another world war will happen in the near future," he added, and later declared that there were too many people sitting on the fence.

Dr. Alfred Salter, M.P., another speaker at the same meeting, said he could not conceive anyone being able to put 500 babies into a furnace and watch them sizzle, but if there was a war under the League we should be doing that.

New War Office "Stunt"—But Youth is Suspicious

From Our Own Correspondents

THE War Office is doing its best to make use of "old school tie" sentiment in its campaign for Territorial Army recruits. A letter has been sent to the secretaries of a number of old boys' associations around London drawing attention to the importance of preparations for the anti-aircraft "defence" of London.

There followed a meeting, chaired by Lord Strathcona and with various impressive "brass hats" present, to arrange for the conversion of old boys' associations into recruiting agencies.

The new T.A. headquarters now being started in London suburbs cannot get enough men, so the units of fifteen are to be groups of fellows who were at school together.

"Learn to man a searchlight. Defend the wife and children, and stand by the old school tie." Such is the stunt now being "put over."

At one recent old boys' meeting recruiting pamphlets were distributed and the same old stuff in this new guise was brought out by a representative militarist belonging to the association. But a certain deflation of the military gas balloon was noticeable after someone had quoted the Prime Minister's words regarding the impossibility of giving protection against the bomber.

PACIFIST YOUTH

Should some former scholars be hoodwinked, however, it seems certain that many present pupils will not be swayed so easily.

A letter signed by "Idealist" in the current number of a magazine emanating from one of the leading public schools of the country—and one having a strong O.T.C.—

points out that the younger generation is "less willing to be led like lambs to the slaughter."

The reason for this, he says, "is that more and more of the young people of today are taking an interest in their own futures by thinking out for themselves the problems facing them. The number of these is rapidly growing and they will provide a leaven which will have an increasing effect."

"ANTI"-AIRCRAFT!

An anti-aircraft demonstration was held in Loughborough recently, complete with searchlights and a listening apparatus. Opinions were expressed that the aeroplane was trying to get in the ray of light—in fact whenever the former was lost to view a red light appeared to assist the searchlight operators.

It is now presumed that enemy aircraft will come fitted with side and tail lamps to assist locators and gunners!

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AND as for making the P.P.U. "a refuge for faddists," I do not see why faddists should not be as welcome

Pacifists are as yet relatively so few and weak that they cannot afford to let their differences of opinion as to methods separate them from one another. They must form and keep a united front of all their various kinds of members. There is room and need for many different ways of developing enduring power for our struggle.

R. M. HOLBROW tells us

MORE ABOUT LESS LISTENING

IT was reported recently that the BBC was planning to save £500 a week by cutting down the alternative programmes and closing certain stations altogether for several hours a day.

I have already, in these columns, expressed the opinion that there is too much broadcasting, or rather too much listening. Only the certainty that nobody would support me prevents me from launching a Less Listening Campaign!

I was encouraged when I read the proposal to cut down programmes, for this appears to be the only way to induce people to listen less. The economy, however, was to occur merely in the months of July, August and September.

Presumably the purpose was to save money during the holiday

so much to see, so much to hear. Time for most of us is all too short.

We are great absorbers of print and still greater absorbers of radio: but is not the art of thinking becoming a lost art?

We are keen on labour-saving devices, especially those which save us the labour of thinking. With the wireless tap turned on all day and well into the night our homes are less likely than ever to provide the atmosphere and the opportunity for reflection, for unhurried consideration of problems, for constructive thought. There are eight million loud speakers, but how many quiet thinkers are there left?

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the present rearmament drive is the acquiescence of the mass of the people.

Lord Ponsonby suggested in PEACE NEWS the other week that

DON'T be put off!

HAVE you tried getting PEACE NEWS into your public library—and not succeeded? Have you had such a reply as Wigan's librarian gave—to the effect that he could not take it because it was "purely propagandist?"

If so (and if not you will doubtless be able to take similar action varied to suit the particular reply you have had), don't be put off.

(a) Hunt up all the propagandist organs which do find a place in the library.

(b) Draw your librarian's attention to them.

(c) Anyhow, appeal over his head to the library committee of the local council. Then let's hear of the result.

* * * * *

On the other hand, successes at the third largest city in the country — BIRMINGHAM, where PEACE NEWS will be shown in all 26 branches—and at:

BARKING
CADBURY'S WORKS
HEATON MOOR
ILFORD
KIDDERMINSTER
MIDDLETON
NEWCASTLE Y.M.C.A.
WARD END
WORCESTER

bring the total up to 108.

months, when fewer people listen, in order to improve the winter programmes.

My hope of a drastic pruning is a vain one. The British public, having grown accustomed to an almost non-stop wireless, would never surrender any part of the privilege.

I can imagine the storm of protest if such a step were contemplated. Collie Knox would demand an extra page!

Why am I so concerned about this alleged over-consumption of radio? Can we have too much of this good thing? And if we do, does it matter?

A story is told of a Quaker woman and Southey. The poet was explaining with enthusiasm how he spent his day. He did not waste a minute. He studied Portuguese while he shaved, read Spanish for an hour before breakfast, then wrote or studied all the morning until dinner, and so on throughout the day.

His whole time was occupied with writing, reading, eating, talking, exercising, and sleeping. Every moment was accounted for. Southey prided himself on his personal efficiency. Was the woman impressed?

She replied with one pertinent question: "And, friend, when dost thee think?"

This is the age of hustle of strenuous living. There is so much to do,

people were guided by headlines. They did not face the issues and decide for themselves.

Carlyle wrote: "A thinking man is the worst enemy the Prince of Darkness can have." Surely a nation of thinkers would long since have banished the war peril?

"He thinks too much, such men are dangerous," feared Julius Caesar. A thinking man is a danger to the militarist. Is the P.P.U. becoming dangerous?

"Think hard in terms of actuality" urged Max Plowman recently. Straight thinking is as important to the pacifist as straight shooting is to the soldier.

It is not suggested that we were a race of thinkers before the advent of the BBC. It is suggested that the wireless can bemuse as well as amuse; can bring us so many novelties that nothing novel is left; can turn music, which should be a memorable experience, into an habitual background; can deprive us of all inclination to amuse ourselves; and, finally, can ally itself with the press and the cinema in encouraging our mental laziness.

Democritus put out his eyes, that ceasing to read, he might think the more.

Shall we have to stop up our ears to the wireless, that ceasing to listen, we also might think the more?

PEACE NEWS

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

A "Brass Hat" Looks at War

A BRASS HAT IN NO MAN'S LAND by Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier. Jonathan Cape. 2s. Reviewed by Paul Winterton

GENERAL CROZIER'S outlook on war has changed vastly since his famous war book was first published in 1930.

Throughout the book itself, his hatred of war and his realization of its futility were always apparent but at the time of writing it he was no out-and-out pacifist. "I shall, of course, fight again if I have to in defence of my country," he wrote then, and "Youth sprang to the call but, thank God, British youth always will, if guided." He could think then derisively of "the wasters who avoided military service 'for conscience' sake."

His preface to the Florin Edition marks the advance in his views in a world where collective "security" has proved a broken reed and war a useless means for achieving any good thing.

"I hope if new and younger people read this book," he writes, "they will pause to marvel over the bravery of their fellow countrymen herein depicted and then decide—'never again'—as the only alternative to a futile repetition."

"Let all realize that the days of the Royal Navy and Army are over, that victory is now Dead Sea Fruit and that the role of the Royal Air Force is now futile and ineffective and an instrument far too indiscriminate in action to be placed behind justice."

This is his advance—that he no longer believes right can be or should be upheld by indiscriminate violence.

"Let the well-meaning advocates of collective security," he writes, "now in a difficult and impossible position (I was once there myself) realize that their theory has proved unsound, their method of warfare merely the old method made to look 'respectable'."

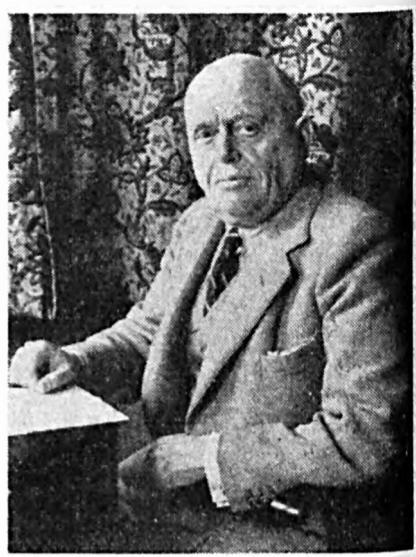
REVIEWS IN BRIEF

ANNO XIII; THE CONQUEST OF AN EMPIRE. Emilio de Bono. Cresset Press. 12s. 6d.

By the admissions contained in this book British apologists for Italy's action are made to look very silly.

The book shows that no real excuse for war was given by the Abyssinians to Italy beyond the existence of their country as a geographical block separating the two Italian colonies and cramping their expansion.

Many facts which speak against the Italians are expressed by Marshal de Bono with refreshing candour. It is obvious from this book that the phrase



Brig.-Gen. Crozier

"civilizing campaign" is wholly inapplicable to the Abyssinian war.

THE TRAGEDY OF SPAIN. War Resisters' International, "Spanish Relief Fund," 11 Abbey Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

This leaflet, which tells of the work of the War Resisters' International in helping refugees from bombarded areas in Spain, appeals for money for their "Spanish Relief Fund."

EUROPE AND EUROPEANS. Count Sforza. Bobbs-Merrill. \$1.50.

Count Sforza presents in this book a very hopeful outlook of the European situation.

He says that "even the personal concern of dictators who can live only in an atmosphere of war will not, in the end, be able to withstand the moral force which is already in operation."

FORCE AND REASON. Prof. Kohn. Harvard University Press. \$1.50.

A plea for a new assertion of reason in present-day thought is made in this book.

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Information which will prove useful to propagandists but not as propaganda for the ordinary person, is being collected by the National Peace Council and issued in the form of a bulletin twice monthly.

The first contains valuable material on the subjects of rearmament and constructive peace for the benefit of active peace workers, speakers, and so on.

The bulletin is obtainable from the National Peace Council, 39 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, and costs 2s. for twelve issues with a discount on quantities.

Working for Peace?

Another poster in the "Working for Peace?" series has been issued by the Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds.

The poster begins with the question "Working for Peace?" and continues "then our foreign policy should be such that we can willingly offer what might in justice be demanded."

Please Order Your
PEACE NEWS
EARLY

Arthur Wragg At Work



These "stills" from Arthur Wragg's film, *Pot Shot*, show (1.) the artist at work on a cartoon; (2.) at his desk, and (3.) the inevitable close-up.

PACIFISM IN A FILM

To the Editor of PEACE NEWS

A film with distinct pacifist flavour which should be seen by everyone is *Men of Yesterday*.

I suggest PEACE NEWS readers ask for this to be shown at their local cinema.

C. H. MUTTON,
41 Arundel Road,
Cheam, Surrey.

Do You Know—

Who Makes Money "While The Sun Shines"?

ALTHOUGH the mystery of why the War Office declined Ransomes and Rapier's offer to make shells on a "no-profit-no-loss" basis has not yet been solved by Mr. Tom Johnston, the M.P. who is investigating the matter, firms who specialize in arms manufacture are "making hay while the sun shines."

Webley & Scott, Ltd., for example, announced last week a jump in net profits from £2,703 to £26,891—an increase of 1,000 percent.

The principal products of this firm are revolvers and automatic pistols. Although no dividend was paid last year, the directors are recommending payment of 15 percent this year.

The literature of the New History Society, especially the announcement of its world-wide essay contest on disarmament, has been confiscated in Japan as "secret" and "seditious."

Forum For Youth

WANTED: A HIGHER PATRIOTISM

AT the outset let me say that I am often accused of not being patriotic because I am a pacifist.

What is patriotism? I feel that so many people have mistaken ideas concerning it. Their view is very limited. Patriotism, as I understand it, is a love of one's country and a passion to serve it.

Let me say quite frankly I love my country, but I do not think first of bricks and mortar, or of pounds sterling but of humanity. There are many dark patches that I hate to see.

My first concern is the well being of my fellow men and I am not at all proud of the fact that guns and poison gas should be placed first.

MUST THEY SUFFER?

As a Christian Evangelist I grieve to see the terrible conditions under which unfortunate people have to live. Their constant struggle against poverty

IDEAS FOR PEACE TABLEAUX

FOR those who feel pacifism should be represented in coronation celebrations the following suggestions—following suggestion 6 in David Spreckley's "Ideas for Action" in PEACE NEWS a fortnight ago—may be assistance:

1. Two lorries, one for war, the other for peace.

Lorry No. 1 would have central symbolic figure of war, as hideous as possible, seated on a slightly raised platform. Grouped around him should be two or more soldiers and civilians (men) blinded and crippled, some women, in despairing attitudes and at least one holding a baby, and some dead bodies (some of them children—dummies would be best for this).

Over the group should be a banner or streamer with the words "War wastes and destroys."

Lorry No. 2 could have a symbolic figure of peace, but this is not essential. Other figures might be varied to suit local conditions, but should contain at any rate some of the following:

Shakespeare, Beethoven, Michelangelo (or Raphael), Socrates, a fireman, miner, lifeboatman, mother with baby, doctor, nurse, teacher. This lorry should carry a banner or streamer with the words "Peace Saves Life—Creates Beauty."

2. Joining hands for peace round the world.

A tall girl dressed or draped in white should represent peace. In the centre of the lorry would be a large globe and round it five small children representing the different continents, passing a letter round from hand to hand.

3. Crowning of the Peace Queen by Justice.

Figures representing Freedom, Faith, Hope, Courage, Wisdom, Friendship, Cooperation, &c., would be in attendance.

Particulars of scenery and dresses for use in connexion with suggestion No. 1 are obtainable from the secretary of the Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds, from whom the above suggestions have been received.

by
a pacifist evangelist working
for the Methodist ministry

and the circumstances which enslave them is heart breaking. It is tragic to think that they must suffer still more in order to help provide for an insane mountain of armaments.

Patriotism, with guns and flags written in human blood, may be some people's idea of love and service to one's country, but I am convinced it is not mine. I shudder to think that the young lives to whom I have such joy to minister, should be in any way overshadowed by the greatest folly ever conceived, War.

Wanted, a higher patriotism. My conception, quite simply, is this:

Love is to be the keynote of our lives. We must be willing to understand our fellows and our neighbours.

We must be anxious to forget ourselves to serve them. Our passion must be for their welfare and not their destruction.

REASON AND LOVE

Our old conceptions of patriotism have only brought chaos. Violence has had its chance, too much chance, and it has failed to settle the difficulties and differences of men and nations. Civilization, especially our young people, needs something higher. Reason and love must be given a chance, that is all they need.

To give reason and love a chance may not sound glorious enough for some people because the so called glamour will be taken away. What are glory and glamour compared with sanity?

ONLY WAY OUT

Our need today is a higher patriotism, and active and dominant resistance against war and all that is evil.

For many years men have explored the avenues and found no way out. We are beginning to race once more up an avenue that can afford no lasting peace.

Humanity's voice must be heard, and it speaks in one language. It can-

Pax Players in Conference

The third annual conference of the International Pax Players Association will be held at Digsell Park Conference House, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, from June 12 to 14, and will include the tenth annual general meeting.

For members and subscribers the charge for the week-end will be £1, and for non-members £1 2s. 6d.

Further particulars may be obtained from E. Eunice Horner, 48 Arlington Street, Islington, London, N.1.

(John Athey's Drama Notes appear on page 5 this week.)

not be wrong as it insists—"We do not desire war. Give us peace."

The spirit of Jesus Christ, reason and love can save the world. We know that, then let us see that it does. Let us stand firm, we must not be carried away by the cries of war-minded fanatics, but prove by service and sacrifice, if needs be, that we love God and humanity.

What War Means

SO far as Great Britain is concerned the nation's rearmament programme may be said to exercise a far-reaching influence on the commodity markets of the world especially as it means that very large quantities of all essential raw materials will have to be held in this country.

The huge defence plans of the Government most certainly mean the circulation of larger sums of money as paid out in wages, and this must of necessity lead to a greater demand for essentials as represented by commodities used in the manufacture of foodstuffs and clothing. But apart from this, there will be a great expansion in the use of all base metals in the "rearmament" group of industries.

The rise in practically every commodity of whatever class must, we are confident, be evident in the prices of a great many commodity shares, and we are firmly of the opinion that the group offers considerable scope for making profits over a comparatively short space of time.

—From a circular issued by Thomas Massey and Co., Ltd., London, stock and share dealers and brokers.

Would you Believe it?

The ordinary man all over Europe wants peace. I regret to have to add that this fact does not seem to me to be of so much importance as one would like it to be.

Commander Stephen King-Hall.

Mr. Duff Cooper, almost by accident, finds himself today one of the world's most practical humanitarians.

Leader in *The Times*.

We cannot promise anybody 100 percent protection in war, for, if it is possible, there will be no war.

Commander E. J. Hodsoll, Head of Air Raid Precautions Department.

In the London suburbs the bright young man simply cannot spare the time for home defence. He is too busy going to ice hockey, the dogs, dance halls and the like.

Sheffield Daily Independent.

Germany has contributed in full measure toward the cause of peace. For what Germany contributed toward peace was in the first place her rearmament.

General Goring.

"Dear Sir...."

Let Others See PEACE NEWS

I WONDER if some of your readers would care to adopt my simple little method of introducing PEACE NEWS to non-readers?

Each week I take my copy out and, either in a railway carriage or, better still, a teashop, produce it and read it with very evident interest, even to



marking a passage or clipping out a cutting (this last is generally a not very important paragraph you may be sure).

On leaving I "forget" it and have never yet reached the station barrier, or the tea shop pay desk without seeing it in somebody's hands.

People are inquisitive, are they not?

Of course one cannot guarantee a regular reader each time but at any rate some thought is implanted in some brain, and, even if it is one of annoyance, it is better than lethargy.

C. E. BARTON.

"San Toy,"
Beach Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea.

SHOULD WE RELIEVE SUFFERING?

Some thoughts on the query, "Is it one's duty to relieve suffering, even if by so doing one is releasing others to fight?": undoubtedly it is one's rightful place to relieve suffering at all times.

If one's pacifism is deeply grounded there is every probability that one's faith will be communicated to those to whom one ministers.

G. M.
Paddington, W.2.

PACIFISTS MUST KNOW THE GALLOWS
is an expression of fear, hatred and despair—the raw material of war. Every inroad on cruelty strengthens mass resistance to the mass brutalities which threaten. Pacifists should therefore actively support abolition of the death penalty. Particulars and free literature can be had from The Secretary, National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1

CHURCHES AND PACIFISM

Individual Responsibility

I FEEL that in concentrating criticism upon the Archbishops and several dignitaries of the churches, we neglect to stress the fact that as much blame attaches to the individual members who acquiesce in such pronouncements as those recently made.

Obviously it is the duty of every one of them conscientiously to honour the principles upon which their churches are founded and prevent degradation of their religion.

Therefore the responsibility for the failure of the churches to lead in the work for peace lies mainly with them.

In short the "people" are responsible for everything in the world—good or bad; and it is useless to place all the blame for wrong conditions on a few outstanding persons.

Millions of self-interested people who suffer because of their selfishness and apathy, cry out against Hitler, Mussolini, or munition makers, but never stir themselves to discover that—

"They themselves are heaven and hell."

E. E. BRISCOE.
Littlecote,
Hever, Nr. Edenbridge,
Kent.

CONVENTIONALITY

I am an ex-Service pacifist and I was educated for his Majesty's Army upon the best military principles. My ideas on peace are purely my own and of recent acquisition. They are a result of the wearing off of my good upbringing and education.

At times I have been horrified at my own sacrilegious thoughts against the good solid old militaristic principles of glory and honour.

Then in a saner moment of reactionary thought I have realized that this horror has been engendered by that sharp thorn of conventional upbringing implanted in my young flesh as soon as I was old enough to understand.

There is a thorn of this sort possessed by most good solid British men and women, although an enlightened few have had the courage to remove the thorn by the sometimes painful process of real unbiased thought.

I do, however, consider that pacifists should be prepared to:

1. Give medical aid to their deluded brethren in time of possible war at any risk to themselves.

2. Be prepared to face a firing squad.

Then their opposition will become real and they will have worked or died to show that their physical courage is lacking no more than their mental.

I have been condemned bitterly for

taking the rash step of leaving my job. It has landed me in a fairly desperate position.

A. J. G. EVANS.
23 Royal Crescent,
Holland Park, W.11.

Baptist Church Dissenters

WE wish to dissociate ourselves from the report of the Baptists' special committee with regard to that denomination and war.

We deeply regret that the committee can advocate in any circumstances what they acknowledge to be alien to the mind of Christ, and we state that we cannot accept their leadership but the leadership of Christ.

We should like to submit that Jesus was not silent in speech or in act with regard to war.

If the Baptist committee require specific words in terms of twentieth century warfare before they are convinced of his attitude, we must conclude that they are still unconvinced as to whether or not they should support slavery and slums.

We regret that the Baptists are rarely represented on the platforms of big peace meetings when almost every denomination is represented, but we do rejoice in the men of our own and of other and no churches who have the discernment and the spirituality and the courage to renounce war and to labour to prevent it.

A P.P.U. GROUP
connected with a Baptist Church.

SITUATION IN SAMOA

I am sorry that in your issue of March 20 you revived the Samoan controversy because the article as printed gave the impression that the incidents referred to were of recent occurrence.

It was indeed unfortunate that the influenza epidemic was carried to Samoa by the s.s. Talune, but after all, no one would suggest that the action was deliberate, and it happened nineteen years ago. No one will defend the shooting of Tamasese by armed military police on December 28, 1929.

It was the outcome of an inexperienced handling of a very difficult and complicated situation, and need not have happened if greater wisdom had been shown by the authorities.

The relations between Samoa and the mandatory Power have greatly improved in recent years, and relationships are no longer on a military basis. The New Zealand Government is, of course, under obligation to render periodical accounts of its stewardship in Western Samoa to the Permanent Mandates Commission at Geneva.

HOWARD DIAMOND.
19 Manor Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

Pacifism in History

POLITICAL MOTIVE NOT ENOUGH

I FIND it impossible properly to understand the attitude of the person who is a pacifist from a political stand-point. There is an historical example of a political pacifist who actually put his policy into effect.

Akhnaton, Pharaoh of Egypt, came to the conclusion that God was a spirit and, furthermore, a benevolent spirit. He indicated his new conception of God in the ending of his name which he changed from Amen to Aton.

At that time the Egyptian Empire stretched from Damascus in the West possibly to the borders of India in the East. Having discovered, in effect, that God was love, Akhnaton logically deduced that armies were unnecessary. With a stroke of a pen he disbanded his forces and recalled his viceroys.

Here, indeed, was practical pacifism! And the sequel? The army officers revolted, the civil service followed suit, and the colonial tribes rose in rebellion.

Akhnaton was poisoned at the age of thirty, his body was not decently interred until some time afterwards, his name was erased from the list of kings so that his father's reign appeared much longer than it really was, and his son formally renounced the new religion by changing his name-ending—Tutankhamen.

The Christian will argue (and justly so if his faith has any foundation) that Akhnaton, poisoned or not, defamed or not, was essentially secure. But what is the position of the purely political pacifist in the face of such an occurrence? Or is it possible to be pacifist apart from Christianity?

Wolverhampton. D. B.

A POLICY

A difficulty, familiar to most members who have done some canvassing, is how to give a satisfactory answer to the very natural question, "What really constructive suggestion do pacifists advocate for improving the chances of peace?"

Doubtless, therefore, P.P.U. groups will be glad to know of one such suggestion put forward recently (in the columns of *The Observer* of March 28, and of April 4) by Dr. L. P. Jacks. In my judgment his suggestion is of outstanding merit, and should satisfy the most obstinate objector.

Very briefly stated Dr. Jacks' idea is to link economic cooperation with the limitation of armaments, and, at a conference of the various Powers agree to:

1. Publish their budgetary expenditure on armaments, and

2. Reduce that expenditure by say 10 percent, the money so saved being paid into the Bank of International Settlements, and used for promoting and financing economic cooperation on definite lines, as well as many other helpful purposes.

The position of the contributory nations would be analogous to that of the policy-holders in an insurance company.

For a fuller account of this interesting mutual insurance scheme I must refer readers to *The Observer* of the dates mentioned.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Jacks in recommending this economic path to peace is quite in harmony with the views which at present appear to prevail in Washington, U.S.A.

S. MARRABLE.
12 Glenair Avenue,
Parkstone.

April 1

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Late Letters**NO PEACE ON THE AIR?**

PLEASE allow me to ask your readers whether any of them could kindly supply information regarding the omission from BBC programmes of peace items, and the inclusion of items unduly likely to produce war-mindedness?

The Leeds Youth Peace Council needs this information to include in a letter to the BBC stating the council's view of the increasingly military nature of programmes.

LESLIE PHILIPSON.

21 Cookridge Drive,
Cookridge,
Leeds.

SCOUTS AND PACIFISM

I have been a member of the Scout movement for the past sixteen years and have always considered, especially of recent years, that this movement could do incalculable good in the spreading of the spirit of "internationalism."

The recent move of cooperation in air raid "precautions" is making it very much more difficult to combat the common criticism of "militarism" and does not reflect the spirit of pacifism which is found in many Scouting and Rovers.

I'm sure that if pacifism were explained to as many Rover crews as possible many of these young men would be convinced of its soundness and conformity with Scouting principles. Will any person who can arrange for a Rover crew to listen to our case being presented communicate with me when I will provide a speaker.

H. LESLIE KIRKLEY.

20 Charnwood Road,
Gatley.

Defeatism Decried

I am perturbed at the view which I often hear expressed, sometimes quite strongly, by fellow members of the P.P.U. They advance the view that "war is inevitable" in the near future.

This seems to me quite a mistaken attitude. It appears to be a surrender to the defeatism which daily fills the newspaper columns. Acceptance of this view is exactly what the militarists want—it is the first step in preparing for war.

I cannot see how we can take this view and yet remain sincere pacifists. Surely, as pacifists, we must stand firmly against such dissemination of fear.

We must show that war is not inevitable; that there are other far better methods of dealing with any awkward situation that may arise; that by faith and work for progressive aims we can achieve lasting peace; that by our united efforts we can make peace inevitable.

E. G. RAWLINGS.

27 Highlands Road,
New Barnet.

(*Surely an evil policy if not checked in time will inevitably lead to an evil result?—Ed.*)

WORLD FAITHS MEET IN COMMON UNITY**From Our Own Correspondent**

A RELIGIOUS service in which those taking part are Buddhist, Christian, Confucian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Moslem, Shinto, Sikh, Tao, Zoroastrian, among others, almost seems the dream of the most ardent striver for the unity of the world. But it has actually taken place and with great success.

The World Fellowship of Faiths, under whose auspices this project was arranged, by utilizing all that is best in each religion or system of ethics, are doing great work in bringing members of widely divergent religious views together in a mutual understanding of each other's faiths.

Four international assemblies of the Fellowship have been planned for the coming years—in London, beginning May 12, 1937, in India, 1938, in America, 1939, in Japan, 1940.

A week-end Congress will be held at Oxford on July 23, 1937, by the World Congress of Faiths, connected with the World Fellowship. Particulars may be obtained from the World Congress of Faiths, BM/Congress, London, W.C.1.

ANTI-WAR EXHIBITION**Plea for Removal of War Relic**

The peace shop and anti-war exhibition which has been held at Eastbourne and to which official support has been given by the Eastbourne Peace Council, the League of Nations Union, the Society of Friends and many other bodies, closed last Saturday after a very successful week.

One of the exhibits in the exhibition was a picture of rows and rows of wooden crosses denoting the thousands of those who "lie buried in Flanders fields," offering a striking contrast to the brutal and explicit bayonet instructions hung near.

However, the constructive side was not neglected and the achievements of the League of Nations and the Quakers and others in international voluntary service were also shown.

WAR RELICS

A suggestion that the best thing to do with war relics was to drop them over the end of the Pier was made at Leigh-on-Sea at a meeting of the Fellowship of Reconciliation last week.

It was pointed out earlier that they should not be sold for scrap iron because that would mean that the metal would only be turned into a new and more deadly weapon.

A letter of protest was sent to the Town Council asking for the removal of the German gun from the cliffs as it was "contrary to the new order of pacifism."

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN BRIEF**BELGIUM**

Dr. Schacht, President of the German Reichsbank, arrived in Brussels on April 13 and was received by King Leopold.

He discussed monetary questions and means of increasing trade between the two countries with the Presidents of the Belgian National Bank and the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce.

The supply to Germany of raw materials from the Belgian Congo in return for manufactured articles was one of the schemes considered.

GERMANY

The "necessity" of a powerful air arm was referred to by General Göring when he opened the new German Academy of Aeronautical Research on April 16. The dependence of the German aeroplane industry on imports of foreign raw materials presented a problem to be solved to ensure the maximum self-sufficiency.

Dr. Schacht, Minister of Economic Affairs, declared at Munich on April 18 that German colonies would help to end the continued necessity of foreign imports of food. He foreshadowed alleviation of the raw material position.

HUNGARY

That Hungarian collaboration with Italy and Austria offered the best guarantee for a pacific development in Central Europe was declared by M. Daranyi, Prime Minister, on April 18. He repudiated dictatorships.

JAPAN

The Social Mass Party (Labour) issued an election manifesto on April 14 declaring that the Military Estimates menaced the country and ending with the slogan: "Smash Fascism." There were 65 Labour candidates out of a total of 799.

According to Tokio reports of April 16 the Labour party was expected to hold the balance of power in the new Diet.

Public sentiment was reported to have changed since the military revolt last February, being now opposed to military interference in non-military affairs.

SPAIN

The Basque Government denied on April 14 that Bilbao was blockaded.

The Non-Intervention Committee's control schemes on the Spanish land and sea frontiers were due to be put into operation on April 19.

Mexico's League Minister justified his Government's policy of moral and material support for the Spanish Government in a press communication of April 19. He declared that the non-intervention policy was not in the spirit or the letter of the Covenant.

S.W. AFRICA

General Hertzog, the Prime Minister, replied on April 16 to the German protest against the "Aliens" Proclamation. The Union Government's desire for friendly relations with its German community was repeated and the hope expressed that the German nationals would not give occasion for the application of the provisions of the Proclamation.

Parliament**NON-INTERVENTION: M.P.'s DOUBTS**
Pacifists Question Candidates

A LETTER has been sent by the members of the Wandsworth group of the Peace Pledge Union to Mr. Roland Jennings, the Conservative candidate in the coming Wandsworth Central by-election, which takes place on Thursday, and to Major H. L. Nathan, the Labour candidate.

It asks the candidates for their views on the Government's "rearmament" programme, and whether they support these war preparations.

It exposes the arguments advanced that the expenditure is for "defence" and "democracy," pointing out the statement made by Mr. Baldwin in 1932 that "the only defence is in offence," and showing that armaments did not preserve democracy in 1914.

A constructive alternative to the arms plan is suggested in the latter part of the letter.

It asks "whether it would not be wise statesmanship if the Government made a determined effort to remedy the desperate situation of less fortunate peoples?" and says that "such a policy would build permanent foundations for European security."

Moving the Labour Party's censure motion deplored "the failure of the Government to give protection to British merchant ships on their lawful occasions," in the House of Commons last week. Mr. Attlee said that the Labour Party held that the action of the Government in warning British ships not to enter the port of Bilbao was a surrender of rights which this country had always maintained on behalf of its ships.

Replying for the Government Sir John Simon said that the Government stood for non-intervention.

From information available to the Government there was no doubt, he asserted, that the area of approach to Bilbao had been mined. He was repeating the information provided by the Admiralty from the spot.

Sir Archibald Sinclair vigorously attacked the Government and said that it was "Abyssinia over again."

Mr. Maxton said that he was in perfect harmony with Sir A. Sinclair and Mr. Attlee. It seemed strange to hear Mr. Churchill say that he was neutral and that he had no enthusiasm for either side.

In a final reply Mr. Eden outlined the Government policy, their responsibilities, and how they proposed to discharge them. The motion was defeated by 345 votes to 130.

The heckling which greeted the Government spokesmen, Mr. Eden, Sir Samuel Hoare, and Mr. Runciman had the effect of indicating the opposition's reckless demand for "strong" action.

MIDDLETON MURRY

starts a
Weekly Commentary
in next week's
PEACE NEWS

FILL IN THE FORM
AT THE FOOT
OF THIS PAGE

Peace News

April 24, 1937

Though all space is not filled until
Tuesday morning, correspondents are
reminded that copy should reach
the editorial office not later than
MONDAY

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DIARY OF THE WEEK

April

24 (Sat.) 2.30 and 6. Houldsworth Hall, 90 Deansgate, MANCHESTER; Lord Arnold, Dr. H. R. L. Sheppard, and Rev. Henry Carter at pacifist convention; Parliamentary Pacifist Group.

27 (Tues.) 1.20 to 2 p.m. Friends House, Euston Road, LONDON, N.W.1; Dr. Amiya Chakravarty on "India and Britain"; Peace Committee of London Friends. 7.30 p.m. Minister's Vestry, Congregational Church, Swan Hill, SHREWSBURY; Mr. Just at group study meeting on "The struggle for the abolition of slavery—its relation to pacifism"; Shrewsbury Peace Fellowship. 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Ship Street, BRIGHTON; inaugural meeting of the Brighton group; P.P.U. and F.O.R.

8 p.m. The Central Hall, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM; Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier at meeting for ex-Service men; P.P.U.

28 (Wed.) 7 p.m. Kingsway Hall, LONDON, W.C.2; reunion and social on the completion by Dr. Donald Soper of ten years' work on Tower Hill. 7.30 p.m. Rechabite Hall, Crane Street, SALISBURY; Nigel Spottiswoode on "Group organization"; P.P.U.

7.30 p.m. Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, HOLBORN; Canon Morris on "Pacifist philosophy."

7.30 p.m. Central Hall, TONY-PANDY; meeting to be addressed by Dr. H. R. L. Sheppard and Wilfred Wellock; P.P.U.

8 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Clifford Street, YORK; Rev. A. Herbert Gray on "The one way to peace"; P.P.U.

29 (Thurs.) 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, St. Helen's Street, DERBY; meeting to be addressed by Mary Gamble and Rev. L. M. Charles-Edwards; P.P.U.

7.45 p.m. Lecture Room, Baptist Church, Waterloo Road, WOLVERHAMPTON; Councillor Harrison Barrow on "Air raid 'precautions'"; P.P.U.

8 p.m. Congregational Church Hall, BUCKHURST HILL; meeting to be addressed by Rev. Leslie Artingstall; F.O.R.

8 p.m. Victoria Hall, BEXHILL; Frank Hancock on "Pacifism, our hope for the world"; P.P.U.

8 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Pilgrim Street, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE; Rev. J. Trevor Davies on "The case for Christian pacifism" and Miss M. Atkinson on "The case for collective security"; Society of Friends.

8.15 p.m. Friends House, High Street, WANDSWORTH; meeting to be addressed by John Barclay; P.P.U.

29 to May 1 (Thurs. to Sat.) Parish Hall, King's Heath, BIRMINGHAM; peace exhibition; P.P.U.

30 (Fri.) 7.45 p.m. Bulstrode Road Council Schools, HOUNSLOW; Dr. Alex Wood on "Defence of democracy"; P.P.U.

8 p.m. Parish Hall, King's Heath, BIRMINGHAM; Canon Stuart D. Morris on "War. The P.P.U.'s way to Peace"; P.P.U.

8 p.m. Albert Hall, LONDON; Lord Cecil and M. Pierre Cot on "Europe's rally to the League"; L.N.U. and I.P.C.

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